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8-4-94

OSHA Docket
Docket No. H-122
Room N-2625
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

To Whom it May Concern:

As a smoker, I strongly oppose the Agency's proposal to ban smoking in U.S. workplaces.

If the Agency's proposed regulations go into effect, people would not be able to smoke even if they went into their own offices and shut the door. Workers would not be able to take a smoking break unless their employer provided a separately ventilated room for the purpose — a financial impossibility for most employers. And if I understand the proposed regulations correctly, I could even be prohibited from smoking in my own home while someone was "employed" on the premises, for example a carpenter or a plumber.

I can think of no reason for the extreme nature of this proposal except that it is an attempt by the federal government to harass and severely restrict those of us who enjoy smoking. The rights of non-smokers can be respected without putting a government blockade around those of us who smoke. All that is required is a little courtesy, common sense and, where appropriate, separately designated areas for smokers and non-smokers.

The Agency should revisit and revise its smoking proposal at the earliest opportunity. It is an unwarranted attempt by the federal government to control individual behavior.

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